

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

*In the Matter of:*  
Orchard Post Office  
Orchard, Iowa 50460

Docket No. A2012-45

**NOTICE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OF FILING ERRATA**  
(January 4, 2012)

The Postal Service hereby gives notice of filing errata to its initial brief, filed on December 22, 2011. One minor correction to page 17 of the initial brief is being filed as an attachment to this pleading. The correction is shown in gray highlighted text. The Postal Service regrets the inconvenience, but does not believe any party is prejudiced.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
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postmaster.

Petitioners also criticize the Postal Service for failing to account for additional costs that will be needed to pick up and deliver mail throughout the community. Notwithstanding Petitioners' complaint, the Postal Service applied its standard financial analysis which accounts for the following cost drivers: the number of additional boxes to be added to the contract or rural route; the additional volume that may be expected per additional box; the number of additional miles to be added to the route; and the total additional annual hours that will be required to service the route. See Item No. 17, Rural Route Carrier Estimated Cost for Alternative Replacement Service. The Postal Service's approach is both defensible and reasonable; moreover, it is efficient while adding comparability across discontinuance studies. The administrative record has been corrected to account for the estimated cost of adding CBUs to route. See Item No. 17 at 2. A subtraction of this estimated cost from the economic savings calculation that appears in the Final Determination reflects that the Postal Service will still achieve substantial economic savings from the discontinuance of the Orchard Post Office. See FD at 7,8; Item No. 33, Proposal at 7, 8.<sup>23</sup>

Carrier service is already provided to a great number of homes, so this cost is based on the increased volume that the Orchard community would represent. These costs have been subtracted from the total annual costs of maintaining the Orchard Post Office, still leaving the Postal Service with an annual savings of \$27,894. FD at 7, 8;

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<sup>23</sup> Although it was not initially noted, the record has been updated to reflect that the cost of adding CBUs to the route will involve a one time investment of \$4304.39. Despite the fact that it was not in the initial calculation, it does not change the overall analysis and the savings to the Postal Service remain substantial. See Item No. 17 at 2.